

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-29 : (Canceled)

Claim 30 : (Currently Amended) A method of enabling marking of objects, comprising the steps of:

a) manufacturing, at a manufacturing site, stencils with cutouts arranged in marking patterns;

b) filling the cutouts with a fusible material;

c) ~~b)~~ sending the stencils from the manufacturing site to marking sites at which marking of the objects is to be performed;

d) ~~e)~~ applying the stencils on the objects to be marked at the marking sites; and

e) ~~d)~~ marking the objects with the marking patterns of the stencils applied to the objects at each marking site by heating the fusible material at each marking site to a temperature sufficient to melt the fusible material.

Claim 31 : (Canceled)

Claim 32 : (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 ~~claim 31~~, wherein the fusible material is one of a metal material, a metal oxide material, a ceramic material, and an alloy of said materials.

Claim 33 : (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the applying step includes the step of adhering the stencils in direct contact with the objects to be marked.

Claim 34 : (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 ~~claim 34~~; and the step of covering the cutouts filled with the fusible material with a cover layer.

Claim 35 : (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the cutouts are sequential numbers.

Claim 36 : (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the cutouts are a logo.

Claim 37 : (Currently Amended) A method of enabling marking of gemstones, comprising the steps of:

a) manufacturing, at a manufacturing site, stencils with cutouts arranged in marking patterns;

b) filling the cutouts with a fusible material;

c) b) sending the stencils from the manufacturing site to marking sites at which marking of the objects is to be performed;

d) e) applying the stencils on the objects to be marked at the marking sites; and

e) d) marking the gemstones with the marking patterns of the stencils applied to the gemstones at each marking site by heating the fusible material at each marking site to a temperature sufficient to melt the fusible material.